

upon to shoulder a burden of over fifty millions in a construction from which they can never derive any commensurate benefits—and more especially when they are unable to develop the resources lying idle at their own doors from the want of cheap means of transport !

The interests of England are twofold. The first, to facilitate to her surplus home population the access to a fertile country under her own sceptre. This easing of a redundant mass of people, living more or less in enforced idleness, is a matter of necessity to prevent civil commotions. England cannot profitably absorb her present population ; neither can she produce her requirements of food, nor live without foreign markets. Had a far-seeing policy guided this annual outflow during the last fifty years to her various colonies, how different might have been the position to-day. It is this outflow—in the main—which has built up the United States, but with what results—the creation of a great nation, which now not only shuts out her wares, but likewise invades her own markets. England can send us with advantage over fifty thousand hardy emigrants annually ; in ten years these—apart from continental immigration—will represent over a million. Statisticians will figure out the double gain to England in producers of her food supply, and purchasers of her manufactured goods. A boundless field is opened out to her in our North-West. The second—an interest more extended in its range and scope. England's Empire extends over the globe—her possessions are scattered through every sea. To her, therefore, military and naval stations, and coaling depots, at cardinal points, are of imperative necessity in order to keep open her lines of communication between all parts of the Empire. Without these England cannot hold her colonial possessions—and shorn of her colonial possessions England descends to the position of a third-rate power—nay her very existence becomes imperilled. Now if Gibraltar and